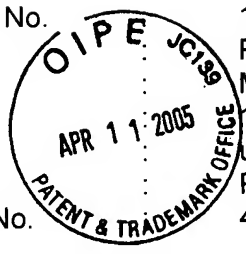


J.F.W

Application No. 10/810,593  
Applicant PALMER, Robert M.  
Filed March 29, 2004  
TC/AU 1724  
Examiner unknown  
Docket No. P 272 US  
Customer No. 49,127



Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia  
22313-1450

### MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Dear Sir,

#### RE: INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicant submits the following statement in accordance with 37 CFR §§1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, along with the references listed on the enclosed USPTO Form 1449.

**I. This Information Disclosure Statement is made:**

- ☐ Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 CFR §1.53(d), in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(b)(1).
- ☐ Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR §1.491 in an international application, in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(b)(2).
- ☒ Before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(b)(3).
- ☐ Before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR §1.114, in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(b)(4).
- ☐ Before the mailing date of any of a final action under 37 CFR §1.113, a notice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution, in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(c).
- ☐ Applicant states that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the

filing of the information disclosure statement, in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).

— Applicant states that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement, in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

— The fee set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(p) is enclosed.

— After the mailing date of any of a final action under 37 CFR §1.113, a notice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(d).

— Applicant states that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement, in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).

— Applicant states that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement, in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(e)(2).

— The fee set forth in 37 CFR §1.17(p) is enclosed.

**II. Regarding copies of the patents, applications, and other documents listed on the attached USPTO Form 1449:**

— A copy of each US and foreign patent application, and of each other publication is attached.

☒ As this application was filed after June 30, 2003, no US patent or published application copies are enclosed. A copy of each foreign patent or application is attached.

☐ Some or all of the documents listed on Form 1449 are not enclosed, as they were cited in the International Search Report, and copies should therefore exist on the USPTO file. Please advise if copies are required.

### III. Language and relevance of documents:

☒ All documents are submitted in the English Language, and no statement of relevance is required.

☐ At least one document is not in the English language, and:

- ☐ A concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English document follows:
- ☐ An English version of the search report or action that indicated the degree of relevance of the non-English document is attached, which serves as a concise explanation of the relevance of the document.

Respectfully submitted,



Andrew R. Hicks  
Res # 39,468  
Hicks & Penman Ltd.

#### Enclosures:

1. USPTO Form 1449
2. Copies/translations of foreign patent documents

